

Indian Creek-Westridge Community Services District Board Meeting  
May 2, 2023  
Christian Science Church, West Line Street and Grandview Drive, Bishop, CA

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board Chairperson Luis Elias. Present were Directors Jeff Anderson, Casey Dean, Dave Mappus, Ted Williams; District Manager Terry Tye; District Operator Don Buser; Assistant Operator Kim Derr; Joe Almeida.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the February 14, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously (moved Williams, seconded Anderson).

**Operations and Maintenance Report:** Mr. Buser presented the April report. The following lists some of the work that was done. Tested well 1 generator (good run). Made sure generators ran on auto when there was a power outage. Much work done related to heavy snowfalls and aftermath. Alarms were muted on Well 5. Made sure placement of fiber optics would not damage pipes. Cashman CAT mechanic worked on Well 5 generator. Worked with Owens Valley Conservation Camp inmates exercising valves and flushing hydrants.

**Finance Report--Quarterly, Auditor's Review of Financial Statements, Annual Budget, Delinquents:** Mr. Tye provided a detailed, thorough presentation.

The balance in the bank stands at \$747,907 including an O & M total of \$355,309 and Capital Funds of \$392,598. The district's CPA, Mike Holland, does not see a need to consolidate the three bank accounts to two. Mr. Tye will transfer \$150,000 from the savings account to the checking account (or vice versa, depending on which account has a higher interest rate).

The audit done by Nigro & Nigro was thorough, with good explanations. Mr. Tye noted only one error. The district was formed in 2009, not 1997. He will ask them to make the correction.

Mr. Tye provided a line-by-line explanation of the proposed 2023-2024 budget. Capital replacements budgeted in 2021-2022 are done. The ones budgeted for 2022-2023 were \$48,000 under budget because the new hydrant on Wildrose was placed on a resident's property. This will reduce the 2023-2024 budget by \$48,000 because the work was done the previous year.

One of the projects listed on the USDA grant proposal is done. Forty-two of the valves in the grant are in better condition than expected.

Twenty-five hydrants are new. Two are old but they meet fire department requirements because they have new hydrants in close proximity. Recent exercising showed that nine valves need to be replaced. An additional hydrant needs to be placed on Morningside Drive, where 700 feet are underrepresented. Fire Chief Joe Dell recommended placing the hydrant at the intersection on Morningside and Mesquite. The cost of a hydrant is \$10,000.

A valve replacement is needed in front of the Christian Science church, by the Manor Market recycling center, and in front of Manor Market. The one at Manor Market will probably be done at night to minimize disruption when the water is shut off.

Mr. Elias stated that he has confidence in the selection of the capital projects because Mr. Tye,

Mr. Buser and Mr. Derr have hands-on experience. Mr. Mappus and Mr. Dean also expressed confidence in the choice of the projects. Mr. Williams thanked Mr. Tye for the prioritization and said he appreciates the time and thought that went into it.

Some of the work can be done by the end of June 2023. Kendall Engineering is available to do it. Mr. Tye filed the application for an encroachment permit. If this work, estimated at \$40,000, is completed in this fiscal year instead of next, Mr. Tye asked if the 2023-2024 budget should be revised by that amount. The consensus was to leave it in the 23-24 budget.

The proposed 2023-2024 budget was approved unanimously (moved Williams, seconded Dean).

Mr. Tye reported that he did not focus on delinquencies in the past month. The current amount is \$3,350. Of that, one customer is responsible for \$2,100. Mr. Tye initiated a lien on this customer.

**OVGA Report:** Mr. Elias reported that the Owens Valley Ground Water Authority has not been very active. Karen Kong was reelected as the director. He made it clear to OVGA that our district will not make financial contributions if things remain as they are. OVGA has enough funds to sustain it for now. Eventually it will have to develop a funding mechanism.

**Electronic Annual Report:** Mr. Tye stated that he submitted the report and it was accepted on April 12, 2023. Receiving approval has become complicated and time consuming due to the state's increasingly stringent demands that are not clearly stated at the outset.

**2022 Consumer Confidence Report:** Mr. Tye reported that the report was accepted by the state. In the past it was included with the billings mailed in June to all customers. This year Mr. Tye will upload it to the website instead of mailing it.

The 2022 Consumer Confidence Report was approved unanimously (moved Elias, seconded Williams).

**Drought and Conservation Report:** Mr. Tye explained that a new monthly report is required by the state Division of Drinking Water. The report is very detailed and includes pumping numbers. It duplicates the Electronic Annual Report he submits each year.

**Letter to the Owens Valley Conservation Camp:** Mr. Tye referred board members to the letter in the agenda packet. He wrote it to thank the OVCC for assistance with the recent valve exercising and hydrant flushing. Two inmates were particularly helpful. Mr. Buser agreed.

**Revisiting Fairview Fire Aftermath at Request of Supervisor Roeser:** Mr. Tye provided the following information. After the Fairview fire, Fire Chief Joe Dell asked our district for assistance in providing water to the Fairview neighborhood in case there is another fire. The ICWCSD Board approved this request on the following conditions: No money would be allocated; all administrative work and costs, permits, easements, etc., would be completed by outside agencies; ICWCSD would only supply water for fire suppression, e.g., fire hydrant or water tank; no water supply for personal use, i.e., no new service connections, customers or billing; water supplied would be at the usual rate of \$1.24/1000 gallons measured by flow meter. The Fairview area was in county supervisorial district 3. Now, after redistricting, it is in Supervisor Roeser's district 4. She contacted Mr. Tye about helping the Fairview neighborhood. He explained to her that our district will not supply drinking water or add customers and new

connections. He invited her to today's meeting, but she was unable to attend.

Board members discussed the situation. There is a question as to whether there is enough pressure for our district to provide water. Fairview residents could consider adding a tank in their neighborhood, like some other communities. The cost of sinking a well is probably considerably less than having the extensive work done to get water from our district. Everyone agreed that our district will not use funds for this project.

**Digital Storage Project:** Joe Almeida is digitizing documents. They are stored in Google Drive. Mr. Almeida will send a link to board members so they can access the documents. The permission will allow board members to access but not change documents. Mr. Almeida will also provide instructions.

Next Meeting: August 8, 2023

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.  
Minutes submitted by Stephanie Sheltz.